

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

20. (currently amended) A storage system having a first storage subsystem and a second storage subsystem coupled to a host computer via a network, [[comprising:]] wherein,

the first storage subsystem includes:

first and second storage volumes storing data accessed from the host computer according to a block access command;

first retention information associated with the first storage volume; and

second retention information associated with the second storage volume;

and

the second storage subsystem includes:

storage volumes storing data; and

a setting information storage area;

wherein data in the first storage volume are copied to a third storage volume of the storage volumes in the second storage subsystem and a third retention information corresponding to the first retention information is stored in the setting information storage area of the second storage subsystem according to a request for copying the data in the first storage volume so that write access to the third storage volume is prohibited based on the third retention information after the data stored in the first storage volume are copied to the third storage volume; and

wherein data in the second storage volume are copied to a fourth storage volume of the storage volumes in the second storage subsystem and a fourth retention information corresponding to the second retention information is stored in the setting information storage area of the second storage subsystem according to a request for copying the data in the second

storage volume so that write access to the fourth storage volume is prohibited based on the fourth retention information after the data stored in the second storage volume are copied to the fourth storage volume.

~~first and second storage volumes being configured to store data accessed from the host computer according to a block access command;~~

~~first setting information associated with the first storage volume; and~~

~~a storage controller being configured to copy data in the first storage volume to the second storage volume according to a copy request from the host computer, the copy request including information specifying the first storage volume;~~

~~wherein the second storage volume is managed based on the first setting information associated with the first storage volume after the data stored in the first storage volume are copied to the second storage volume.~~

21. (previously presented) The storage system of claim 20, wherein the block access command includes SCSI and iSCSI.

22. (currently amended) The storage system of claim 20, wherein the first setting information is copied and stored as ~~[[a second]]~~ the third setting information associated with the second storage so that the second storage is managed based on the first setting information when the data in the first storage volume are copied to the second storage volume.

23. (canceled)

24. (canceled)

25. (canceled)

26. (currently amended) The storage system of claim ~~[[25]]~~ 20, wherein the data are copied from the first storage volume to the ~~[[second]]~~ third storage volume after a first

retention period for the first storage volume has expired, the first retention information defining the first retention period.

27. (new) The storage system of claim 20, wherein the setting information storage area includes a cache memory.

28. (new) The storage system of claim 20, wherein the setting information storage area includes a storage volume.

29. (new) The storage system of claim 20, wherein the third retention information take over remaining days in the first retention information, the remaining days indicating the number of days for which write access to a storage volume is prohibited.